

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument 15807 Teller County Road 1 PO Box 185 Florissant, CO 80816

719 748-3253 phone 719-748-3164 fax

Florissant Fossil Beds News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact(s): Jeff Wolin or Shawn Frizzell

Phone number: 719-748-3253

Date: 1/07/08 Release code: 08- 02

Florissant Fossil Beds Introduces: Huts, Hikes, and Hot Chocolate Programs

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument is introducing a winter series of programs called "Huts, Hikes, and Hot Chocolate." These 2 hour ranger-led programs will take place throughout the winter at the Florissant Fossil Beds. The programs will begin in the Monument's Yurt (hut) by the wood stove with hot chocolate and coffee. The ranger will introduce the program and then take participants on a guided hike which will last up to 2 hours and may cover up to 2 miles.

The first program will take place on January 20th, 2008 at 12 noon. Ranger Shawn will be guiding a hike to experience winter at the Monument. Reservations are required, and space is limited. Please call (719) 748-3253.

These guided hikes may be on foot, snowshoe, or skis, depending on the levels of snow. You must provide all of your own equipment and warm clothing. You must also be able to assess your ability and needs, or that of your family, to hike, ski, or snowshoe up to 2 miles. Small children are not recommended.

There is no charge for the program beyond the normal entrance fee which is \$3.00 for anyone 16 or over. Anyone 15 or under is free. To reach the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, travel 35 miles west of Colorado Springs on Highway 24. At the town of Florissant, turn left onto Teller County #I and travel 2 miles south to the Visitor Center. Reservations are required and space is limited, please call (719) 748-3253 for more information.